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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/981,873

Applicant(s)

DAVIS ET AL.

Examiner

Ashok B. Patel

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 June 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-29 are subject to examination.
2. In view of the appeal brief filed on 6/3/2006, PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED. A new ground of rejection set forth below.

To avoid abandonment of the application, appellant must exercise one of the following two options:

(1) file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111 (if this Office action is non-final) or a reply under 37 CFR 1.113 (if this Office action is final); or,

(2) initiate a new appeal by filing a notice of appeal under 37 CFR 41.31 followed by an appeal brief under 37 CFR 41.37. The previously paid notice of appeal fee and appeal brief fee can be applied to the new appeal. If, however, the appeal fees set forth in 37 CFR 41.20 have been increased since they were previously paid, then appellant must pay the difference between the increased fees and the amount previously paid.

3. Examiner would like to thank the Applicant for providing the explanation of the claimed limitations in relation to the specification by reference to Figures, pages and lines in response to claim rejections in accordance with 35 USC § 112, first paragraph and second paragraph as below:

Response to Claim Rejections in accordance with 35 USC § 112, second paragraph:

"The Examiner first ask "How and why modifying has to occur on "the universal resource locator based on the user identification" when "the request from a second application is received" already "includes the universal resource locator and a user

identification." As to how modifying occurs, modification is performed by a proxy server. Proxy server 412 provides a mechanism for a partitioned development environment also referred to as a "sandbox" (Specification, p. 14, lines 5-7). Proxy server 412 assigns a copy of the application for each user and dynamically modifies references to a particular instance or copy of the application based on which user is accessing this instance or copy (Specification, p. 14, lines 8-11).

As to why modifying has to occur when "the request from a second application is received" already "includes the universal resource locator and a user identification is because the included universal resource locator refers an application that several developers and analysts may simultaneously work on (Specification, p. 3, lines 21-23). Thus, each developer or analyst must be provided with their own copy/instance of the application for testing purposes (Specification, p. 9, lines 6-14). The copy/instance of the application assigned to the user is based on the user identification that is received with the universal resource locator (Specification, p. 14, lines 8-11).

The Examiner's questions following the preceding question are confusingly worded. Appellants believe the Examiner's line of questions fall into one of two categories of questions: 1) why is the request directed to a selected application within the set of applications using the modified the universal resource locator when the request is for a first application? And 2) how is it possible to direct a request using the modified the universal resource locator to a selected application within the set of applications when the "a set of applications" is associated with "a universal resource locator" and the request is for a first application?

In regards to question number 1, although the request is for a first application, the proxy server receives the requests from clients and provides the appropriate redirection of the requests to the copy of the application that is assigned to the user. The user requests a first application because programmers or developers access these applications using the same URL. Accessing the application using the same URL is important to development applications for the Web site because the development applications are simulated as if they are actually being served up or accessed on the Internet (Specification, p. 3, lines 23-25). However, because these applications may simultaneously be used by several developers, a copy/instance of the application must be provided to each developer for testing purposes (Specification, p. 9, lines 6-14). Thus, each developer is capable of simultaneous development on the same application using the same URL.

In regards to questions number 2, Appellants will give an example to clarify to the Examiner the features of claim 1 and show that claim 1 is not indefinite. Claim 1 recites that a URL is associated with a set of applications. For example, suppose the URL, "www.xyz.com", refers to a particular website. Now suppose copies of the xyz.com website are made, i.e., a set of applications, and each copy is assigned to a particular developer. Thus these copies are associated, i.e., has some relation, to the URL. However, to get to these copies of the website, the user requests the original website, i.e., the first application, using the URL, "www.xyz.com", from the user's browser, i.e., the second application, and along with the URL requests the user's identification is received by the server. Based on the user's identification, the

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universal resource locator is modified to refer to a copy/instance of the application, wherein the step of modifying maintains the universal resource locator unchanged as shown in the second application, i.e., the user's browser Location field. Thus, the user is unaware that he/she is being directed to a copy/instance of the application. The proxy server directs the request to a selected application within the set of applications using the modified universal resource locator.

Appellants have shown that claim 1 is not indefinite and that based on the language of the claim in view of the Specification, Appellants have pointed out and distinctly claimed the subject matter which the Appellants regards as his invention. The Examiner has based his rejection to the remaining claims for similar reasons as stated in claim 1. Thus, the rejection of claim 1 and all the claims in this grouping are in error and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph has been overcome."

Response to Claim Rejections in accordance with 35 USC § 112, first paragraph:

"The Examiner erroneously rejects claims 1-29 based on the Examiner's belief that is not possible to "modifying" the URL and maintain the URL unchanged. However, claim 1 recites "wherein the step of modifying maintains the universal resource locator unchanged as shown in the second application." Thus, Appellants are not claiming that the URL is modified and unchanged because that would not be possible, as stated by the Examiner. Instead, claim 1 recites that the step of modifying the URL maintains the URL unchanged as shown in the second application. This feature of claim 1 is clearly possible to one of reasonable skill in the art.

The attached documentation entitled "Apache 1.3 URL Rewriting Guide"^m describes how one can use Apache's mod_rewrite to solve typical URL-based problems with which webmasters are often confronted. The Apache module mod_rewrite is a sophisticated module which provides a powerful way to perform URL manipulations. The relevant portion of the document is as follows:

Content Handling

From Old to New (intern)

Description:

Assume we have recently renamed the page foo.html to bar.html and now want to provide the old URL for backward compatibility. Actually we want that users of the old URL even not recognize that the pages was renamed.

Solution:

We rewrite the old URL to the new one internally via the following rule:

```
RewriteEngine on  
RewriteBase /-quux/  
RewriteRule ^foo\.html$ bar.html
```

From Old to New (extern)

Description:

Assume again that we have recently renamed the page foo.html to bar.html and now want to provide the old URL for backward compatibility. But this time we want that the users of the old URL get hinted to the new one, i.e. their browsers Location field should change, too.

Solution:

We force a HTTP redirect to the new URL which leads to a change of the browsers and thus the users view:

```
RewriteEngine on
```

```
RewriteBase /-quux/
```

```
RewriteRule ^foo\.html$ bar.html [R]
```

Engelschall, Apache 1.3 URL Rewriting Guide, pp. 11-12.

The first portion above "From Old to New (intern)" describes a possible method to implement the recited feature of claim 1. The user inputs in the old URL, the web server modifies/rewrites that URL internally to the new URL bar.html>. The user does not recognize the switch because the URL is unchanged in the user's browser Location field, i.e., the URL is unchanged as shown in the second application.

The second part "From Old to New (extern)" states that the users of the old URL should be hinted to the new URL. Therefore, the user's browser Location field should change, too.

Thus, the first portion above clearly demonstrates that one can modify the universal resource locator based on the user identification, wherein the step of modifying maintains the universal resource locator unchanged as shown in the second application as recited in claim 1. Therefore, the Examiner's rejection of claim 1-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement is clearly erroneous and should be overturned."

As such the previous claim rejections in accordance with 35 USC § 112, first paragraph and second paragraph are withdrawn.

4. Upon further consideration given to the understanding of the claimed limitations, new grounds of rejection is made as below.

Also, Examiner would like to point out the claims of the reference employed in the following claim rejections, Nakano et al. (hereinafter Nakano)(US 6, 792,454) as follows: CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. A method of developing and maintaining website content for use in a system having at least one work area for developing and modifying website content, a staging area for integrating content from a work area and a webserver; comprising:

receiving a request from a web browser;

extracting a URL from the request;

extracting a cookie from the request;

selecting a prefix according to a predetermined set of mapping rules;

re-mapping the URL dynamically by associating the selected prefix with at least a portion of the original request according to the mapping rules, wherein the resulting URL corresponds to a user's work area; and

routing the request to the web server.

2. A method according to claim 1, further comprising: determining whether the request is a fully qualified request;

searching the mapping rules to find a prefix that matches the fully qualified request;

if there is a match with a prefix in the mapping rules, attaching a prefix to at least a portion of the request according to the mapping rules;

extracting an area prefix from the cookie;

attaching the area prefix from the cookie to the prefix matched with the mapping rules wherein the resulting URL corresponds to a user's work area;

routing the request to the webserver; and

if there is not a match, routing the request to the webserver.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1, 3-7, 9-12, 14-18, 20-27 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nakano et al. (hereinafter Nakano)(US 6, 792,454)

Referring to claim 1,

Nakano teaches a method in a data processing system for managing access (col. 2, line 28-33, "Additionally, it is desirable to have a web development system that allows contributors to access an earlier version of a file, website subsection, or website and that allows a webmaster to check on the progress of contributors, as well as more

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easily post changes to a website.”) to a set of applications (col. 5, line 24-39, col. 21, line 13-20, “ Each area appears to be a complete website at the HTTP protocol level. To accomplish this without having a separate web server for each area, virtualization module 137 enables a single web server to appear as multiple web servers. This greatly reduces deployment and maintenance costs while allowing each area to be a complete website at the HTTP protocol level.”) associated with a universal resource locator (col. 23, line 30-37, “FIGS. 36a-b illustrate the operation of virtualization module 137 for handling absolute and relative requests. The virtualization module 137 receives 3610 an HTTP request from a web browser on one of the development workstations 110, and extracts 3620 the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) address from the request. The virtualization module 137 also extracts 3630 the cookie that has been sent with the URL address.”), the method comprising:

receiving a request for a first application from a second application (col. 23, line 30-37, “FIGS. 36a-b illustrate the operation of virtualization module 137 for handling absolute and relative requests. The virtualization module 137 receives 3610 an HTTP request from a web browser on one of the development workstations 110, and extracts 3620 the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) address from the request. The virtualization module 137 also extracts 3630 the cookie that has been sent with the URL address.”

Note: Second application is requested URL and first application is the browser from which URL is requested.), wherein the request includes the universal resource locator and a user identification (col. 23, line 30-37, “The virtualization module 137 also extracts 3630 the cookie that has been sent with the URL address.”);

modifying the universal resource locator based on the user identification, wherein the step of modifying maintains the universal resource locator unchanged as shown in the second application (col. 23, line 52-59, "If the request is an absolute request, the virtualization module 137 searches 3650 the mapping rules corresponding to the branch along which the viewing area resides and selects 3660 the appropriate prefix (either a document root prefix or a special prefix based on the mapping rules (as discussed above)). The virtualization module 137 attaches 3670 the selected prefix to the original request or a part thereof in accordance with the appropriate mapping rule."); and

directing the request to a selected application within the set of applications using the modified universal resource locator (col. 21, line 20-col. 22, line 67).

Referring to claim 3,

Nakano teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the user identification is a user name located within the request. (col. 22, line 45-61, "The area prefix is appended to the front of the document root prefix or, if applicable, the special prefix that replaces the document root prefix. The area prefix is derived by decoding the "cookie" transmitted with the original request. A cookie is a small amount of persistent data stored by the web browser and passed to the virtualization module 137. A cookie can include various types of information (e.g., the identity of the user, the identity of a user's session ("session ID"), port number, etc.), and one such type may be an indication of the path of the viewing area. In one embodiment, the cookie includes the actual area prefix. In another embodiment, the virtualization module extracts another type of information,

such as a session ID or a port number, from the cookie and looks up the area prefix in an external look up table that maps the type of information extracted to area prefixes.”)

Referring to claim 4,

Nakano teaches the method of claim 1 further comprising: replacing the selected application with a new selected application (col. 6, line 59-63, “The contents of editions can be virtually copied back into work areas and used as the basis for further development of the website. Editions also serve as archives, allowing users to instantly recall files, entire directories, or reconstruct entire past versions of the website.”)

Referring to claim 5,

Nakano teaches the method of claim 4, wherein the new selected application is a new version of the selected application (col. 7, line 16-21 , “An example of dividing website development along branches is to have one branch for the current website and have another branch for a new version of the website. Another example is to have a different branch of development for different regions or for different clients in order to have websites tailored to particular regions or clients.”)

Referring to claim 6,

Nakano teaches the method of claim 1, wherein each application within the set of applications is assigned to a different universal resource locator (col. 21, line 20-col. 22, line 67).and wherein the directing step comprises:

identifying the set of applications using the universal resource locator(col. 23, line 30-37, “FIGS. 36a-b illustrate the operation of virtualization module 137 for handling absolute and relative requests. The virtualization module 137 receives 3610 an HTTP

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request from a web browser on one of the development workstations 110, and extracts 3620 the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) address from the request. The virtualization module 137 also extracts 3630 the cookie that has been sent with the URL address.");

identifying the selected application based on the user identification(col. 22, line 45-61, "The area prefix is appended to the front of the document root prefix or, if applicable, the special prefix that replaces the document root prefix. The area prefix is derived by decoding the "cookie" transmitted with the original request. A cookie is a small amount of persistent data stored by the web browser and passed to the virtualization module 137. A cookie can include various types of information (e.g., the identity of the user, the identity of a user's session ("session ID"), port number, etc.), and one such type may be an indication of the path of the viewing area. In one embodiment, the cookie includes the actual area prefix. In another embodiment, the virtualization module extracts another type of information, such as a session ID or a port number, from the cookie and looks up the area prefix in an external look up table that maps the type of information extracted to area prefixes."); and

sending the request to the selected application using an assigned universal resource locator assigned to the selected applications(col. 21, line 20-col. 22, line 67).

Referring to claim 7,

Nakano teaches a method in a data processing system for managing access (col. 2, line 28-33, "Additionally, it is desirable to have a web development system that allows contributors to access an earlier version of a file, website subsection, or website and that allows a webmaster to check on the progress of contributors, as well as more

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easily post changes to a website.") to a plurality of applications (col. 5, line 24-39, col. 21, line 13-20, " Each area appears to be a complete website at the HTTP protocol level. To accomplish this without having a separate web server for each area, virtualization module 137 enables a single web server to appear as multiple web servers. This greatly reduces deployment and maintenance costs while allowing each area to be a complete website at the HTTP protocol level.") associated with a universal resource locator (col. 23, line 30-37, "FIGS. 36a-b illustrate the operation of virtualization module 137 for handling absolute and relative requests. The virtualization module 137 receives 3610 an HTTP request from a web browser on one of the development workstations 110, and extracts 3620 the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) address from the request. The virtualization module 137 also extracts 3630 the cookie that has been sent with the URL address."), the method comprising:

associating the plurality of applications with a first universal resource locator col. 23, line 30-37, "The virtualization module 137 also extracts 3630 the cookie that has been sent with the URL address.");

assigning the plurality of applications with plurality of universal resource locators excluding the first universal resource locator (col.21, line 55-col.22,line 67);

receiving a request for a first application from a second application, (col. 23, line 30-37, "FIGS. 36a-b illustrate the operation of virtualization module 137 for handling absolute and relative requests. The virtualization module 137 receives 3610 an HTTP request from a web browser on one of the development workstations 110, and extracts 3620 the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) address from the request. The virtualization

module 137 also extracts 3630 the cookie that has been sent with the URL address.”
Note: Second application is requested URL and first application is the browser from which URL is requested.), wherein the request includes including the first universal resource locator and an identification of a user(col. 23, line 30-37, “The virtualization module 137 also extracts 3630 the cookie that has been sent with the URL address.”);

modifying the first universal resource locator based on the user identification, wherein the step of modifying maintains the first universal resource locator unchanged as shown in the second application(col. 23, line 52-59, “If the request is an absolute request, the virtualization module 137 searches 3650 the mapping rules corresponding to the branch along which the viewing area resides and selects 3660 the appropriate prefix (either a document root prefix or a special prefix based on the mapping rules (as discussed above)). The virtualization module 137 attaches 3670 the selected prefix to the original request or a part thereof in accordance with the appropriate mapping rule.”);
and

redirecting the request using the modified universal resource locator to a particular application within the plurality of applications. (col. 21, line 20-col. 22, line 67).

Referring to claim 9,

Nakano teaches the method of claim 7, wherein the identification is a user name(col. 22, line 45-61, “The area prefix is appended to the front of the document root prefix or, if applicable, the special prefix that replaces the document root prefix. The area prefix is derived by decoding the “cookie” transmitted with the original request. A cookie is a small amount of persistent data stored by the web browser and passed to

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the virtualization module 137. A cookie can include various types of information (e.g., the identity of the user, the identity of a user's session ("session ID"), port number, etc.), and one such type may be an indication of the path of the viewing area. In one embodiment, the cookie includes the actual area prefix. In another embodiment, the virtualization module extracts another type of information, such as a session ID or a port number, from the cookie and looks up the area prefix in an external look up table that maps the type of information extracted to area prefixes.").

Referring to claim 10,

Nakano teaches the data processing system comprising:

a bus system;

a communications unit connected to the bus system; a memory connected to the bus system, wherein the memory includes a set of instructions; and

a processing unit connected to the bus system, wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions (Fig. 1, element 130, col. 5, line 5-14, "The development server 130 also includes a conventional memory 150 (e.g., RAM) and a conventional processor 140, which implements the website development methods of the present invention by executing a website development software module 135. The website development module, which is described below, is stored in the memory 150. Also stored in the memory 150 is a HTTP protocol virtualization module 137 which, as discussed below, the processor 140 executes to allow web server 145 to operate as if it were multiple web servers." Note: Server intrinsically includes all the claimed limitations.) to receive a request for a first application from a second application in which

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the request includes a universal resource locator and a user identification (col. 23, line 30-37, "FIGS. 36a-b illustrate the operation of virtualization module 137 for handling absolute and relative requests. The virtualization module 137 receives 3610 an HTTP request from a web browser on one of the development workstations 110, and extracts 3620 the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) address from the request. The virtualization module 137 also extracts 3630 the cookie that has been sent with the URL address." col. 22, line 45-61, "The area prefix is appended to the front of the document root prefix or, if applicable, the special prefix that replaces the document root prefix. The area prefix is derived by decoding the "cookie" transmitted with the original request. A cookie is a small amount of persistent data stored by the web browser and passed to the virtualization module 137. A cookie can include various types of information (e.g., the identity of the user, the identity of a user's session ("session ID"), port number, etc.), and one such type may be an indication of the path of the viewing area. In one embodiment, the cookie includes the actual area prefix. In another embodiment, the virtualization module extracts another type of information, such as a session ID or a port number, from the cookie and looks up the area prefix in an external look up table that maps the type of information extracted to area prefixes.");

modify the universal resource locator based on the user identification, wherein the step of modifying maintains the universal resource locator unchanged as shown in the second application (col. 23, line 52-59, "If the request is an absolute request, the virtualization module 137 searches 3650 the mapping rules corresponding to the branch along which the viewing area resides and selects 3660 the appropriate prefix (either a

document root prefix or a special prefix based on the mapping rules (as discussed above)). The virtualization module 137 attaches 3670 the selected prefix to the original request or a part thereof in accordance with the appropriate mapping rule."); and

directing the request to a selected application within the set of applications using the modified universal resource locator (col. 21, line 20-col. 22, line 67).

Referring to claim 11,

Claim 11 is a claim to a data processing system that carries out the method steps of claim 7. Therefore claim 11 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 7 and Fig.1, element 16, note; these claimed limitations are inherent part of the Web Server.

Referring to claim 12,

Nakano teaches the data processing system for managing access to a set of applications (col. 2, line 28-33, "Additionally, it is desirable to have a web development system that allows contributors to access an earlier version of a file, website subsection, or website and that allows a webmaster to check on the progress of contributors, as well as more easily post changes to a website.", col. 5, line 24-39, col. 21, line 13-20, " Each area appears to be a complete website at the HTTP protocol level. To accomplish this without having a separate web server for each area, virtualization module 137 enables a single web server to appear as multiple web servers. This greatly reduces deployment and maintenance costs while allowing each area to be a complete website at the HTTP protocol level.") associated with a universal resource locator (col. 23, line 30-37, "FIGS. 36a-b illustrate the operation of virtualization module 137 for handling absolute and relative requests. The virtualization module 137 receives 3610 an HTTP request from a

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web browser on one of the development workstations 110, and extracts 3620 the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) address from the request. The virtualization module 137 also extracts 3630 the cookie that has been sent with the URL address.”), the data processing system comprising:

receiving means for receiving a request for a first application from a second application,(col. 23, line 30-37, “FIGS. 36a-b illustrate the operation of virtualization module 137 for handling absolute and relative requests. The virtualization module 137 receives 3610 an HTTP request from a web browser on one of the development workstations 110, and extracts 3620 the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) address from the request. The virtualization module 137 also extracts 3630 the cookie that has been sent with the URL address.” Note: Second application is requested URL and first application is the browser from which URL is requested.), wherein the request includes the universal resource locator and a user identification (col. 23, line 30-37, “The virtualization module 137 also extracts 3630 the cookie that has been sent with the URL address.”);

modifying means for modifying the universal resource locator based on the user identification, wherein the step of modifying maintains the universal resource locator unchanged as shown in the second application(col. 23, line 52-59, “If the request is an absolute request, the virtualization module 137 searches 3650 the mapping rules corresponding to the branch along which the viewing area resides and selects 3660 the appropriate prefix (either a document root prefix or a special prefix based on the mapping rules (as discussed above)). The virtualization module 137 attaches 3670 the

selected prefix to the original request or a part thereof in accordance with the appropriate mapping rule."); and

directing means for directing the request to a selected application within the set of applications using the modified universal resource locator(col. 21, line 20-col. 22, line 67).

Referring to claim 14,

Nakano teaches the data processing system of claim 12, wherein the user identification is a user name located within the request(col. 22, line 45-61, "The area prefix is appended to the front of the document root prefix or, if applicable, the special prefix that replaces the document root prefix. The area prefix is derived by decoding the "cookie" transmitted with the original request. A cookie is a small amount of persistent data stored by the web browser and passed to the virtualization module 137. A cookie can include various types of information (e.g., the identity of the user, the identity of a user's session ("session ID"), port number, etc.), and one such type may be an indication of the path of the viewing area. In one embodiment, the cookie includes the actual area prefix. In another embodiment, the virtualization module extracts another type of information, such as a session ID or a port number, from the cookie and looks up the area prefix in an external look up table that maps the type of information extracted to area prefixes.").

Referring to claim 15,

Nakano teaches the data processing system of claim 12 further comprising: replacing means for replacing the selected application with a new selected application

(col. 6, line 59-63, "The contents of editions can be virtually copied back into work areas and used as the basis for further development of the website. Editions also serve as archives, allowing users to instantly recall files, entire directories, or reconstruct entire past versions of the website.")

Referring to claim 16,

Nakano teaches the data processing system of claim 15, wherein the new selected application is a new version of the selected application. (col. 7, line 16-21, "An example of dividing website development along branches is to have one branch for the current website and have another branch for a new version of the website. Another example is to have a different branch of development for different regions or for different clients in order to have websites tailored to particular regions or clients.")

Referring to claim 17,

Nakano teaches the data processing system of claim 12, wherein each application within the set of applications is assigned to a different universal resource locator (col. 21, line 20-col. 22, line 67).and wherein the directing means comprises:

first identifying means for identifying the set of applications using the universal resource locator (col. 23, line 30-37, "FIGS. 36a-b illustrate the operation of virtualization module 137 for handling absolute and relative requests. The virtualization module 137 receives 3610 an HTTP request from a web browser on one of the development workstations 110, and extracts 3620 the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) address from the request. The virtualization module 137 also extracts 3630 the cookie that has been sent with the URL address.");

second identifying means for identifying the selected application based on the user identification (col. 22, line 45-61, "The area prefix is appended to the front of the document root prefix or, if applicable, the special prefix that replaces the document root prefix. The area prefix is derived by decoding the "cookie" transmitted with the original request. A cookie is a small amount of persistent data stored by the web browser and passed to the virtualization module 137. A cookie can include various types of information (e.g., the identity of the user, the identity of a user's session ("session ID"), port number, etc.), and one such type may be an indication of the path of the viewing area. In one embodiment, the cookie includes the actual area prefix. In another embodiment, the virtualization module extracts another type of information, such as a session ID or a port number, from the cookie and looks up the area prefix in an external look up table that maps the type of information extracted to area prefixes."); and

sending means for sending the request to the selected application using an assigned universal resource locator assigned to the selected applications(col. 21, line 20-col. 22, line 67); and

Referring to claim 18,

Nakano teaches the data processing system for managing access (col. 2, line 28-33, "Additionally, it is desirable to have a web development system that allows contributors to access an earlier version of a file, website subsection, or website and that allows a webmaster to check on the progress of contributors, as well as more easily post changes to a website.") to a plurality of applications(col. 5, line 24-39, col. 21, line 13-20, " Each area appears to be a complete website at the HTTP protocol level. To

accomplish this without having a separate web server for each area, virtualization module 137 enables a single web server to appear as multiple web servers. This greatly reduces deployment and maintenance costs while allowing each area to be a complete website at the HTTP protocol level.") associated with a universal resource locator (col. 23, line 30-37, "FIGS. 36a-b illustrate the operation of virtualization module 137 for handling absolute and relative requests. The virtualization module 137 receives 3610 an HTTP request from a web browser on one of the development workstations 110, and extracts 3620 the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) address from the request. The virtualization module 137 also extracts 3630 the cookie that has been sent with the URL address."), the data processing system comprising:

associating means for associating the plurality of applications with a first universal resource locator(col. 23, line 30-37, "The virtualization module 137 also extracts 3630 the cookie that has been sent with the URL address.");

assigning means for assigning the plurality of applications with plurality of universal resource locators excluding the first universal resource locator (col.21, line 55-col.22,line 67);

receiving means for receiving a request for a first application from a second application, (col. 23, line 30-37, "FIGS. 36a-b illustrate the operation of virtualization module 137 for handling absolute and relative requests. The virtualization module 137 receives 3610 an HTTP request from a web browser on one of the development workstations 110, and extracts 3620 the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) address from the request. The virtualization module 137 also extracts 3630 the cookie that has been

sent with the URL address.” Note: Second application is requested URL and first application is the browser from which URL is requested.), wherein the request includes including the first universal resource locator and an identification of a user(col. 23, line 30-37, “The virtualization module 137 also extracts 3630 the cookie that has been sent with the URL address.”);

modifying means for modifying the first universal resource locator based on the user identification, wherein the step of modifying maintains the first universal resource locator unchanged as shown in the second application(col. 23, line 52-59, “If the request is an absolute request, the virtualization module 137 searches 3650 the mapping rules corresponding to the branch along which the viewing area resides and selects 3660 the appropriate prefix (either a document root prefix or a special prefix based on the mapping rules (as discussed above)). The virtualization module 137 attaches 3670 the selected prefix to the original request or a part thereof in accordance with the appropriate mapping rule.”); and

redirecting means for redirecting the request using the modified universal resource locator to a particular application within the plurality of applications. (col. 21, line 20-col. 22, line 67).

Referring to claim 20,

Nakano teaches the data processing system of claim 18, wherein the identification is a user name (col. 22, line 45-61, “The area prefix is appended to the front of the document root prefix or, if applicable, the special prefix that replaces the document root prefix. The area prefix is derived by decoding the “cookie” transmitted

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with the original request. A cookie is a small amount of persistent data stored by the web browser and passed to the virtualization module 137. A cookie can include various types of information (e.g., the identity of the user, the identity of a user's session ("session ID"), port number, etc.), and one such type may be an indication of the path of the viewing area. In one embodiment, the cookie includes the actual area prefix. In another embodiment, the virtualization module extracts another type of information, such as a session ID or a port number, from the cookie and looks up the area prefix in an external look up table that maps the type of information extracted to area prefixes.").

Referring to claim 21,

Claim 21 is a claim to computer program products in a computer readable medium that carries out the method steps of claim 1. Therefore claim 21 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 1.

Referring to claim 23,

Claim 23 is a claim to computer program products in a computer readable medium that carries out the method steps of claim 3. Therefore claim 23 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 3.

Referring to claim 24,

Claim 24 is a claim to computer program products in a computer readable medium that carries out the method steps of claim 4. Therefore claim 24 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 4.

Referring to claim 25,

Claim 25 is a claim to computer program products in a computer readable medium that carries out the method steps of claim 5 . Therefore claim 25 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 5.

Referring to claim 26,

Claim 26 is a claim to computer program products in a computer readable medium that carries out the method steps of claim 6. Therefore claim 26 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 6.

Referring to claim 27,

Claim 27 is a claim to a computer program products in a computer readable medium that carries out the method steps of claim 7. Therefore claim 27 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 7.

Referring to claim 29,

Claim 29 is a claim to computer program products in a computer readable medium that carries out the method steps of claim 9. Therefore claim 29 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 9.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 2, 8, 13, 19 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakano et al. (hereinafter Nakano)(US 6, 792,454) in view of Levergood et al. (herein after Levergood) (US 2006/0095526 A1).

Referring to claim 2,

Keeping in mind the teachings of Nakano, Nakano specifically fails to teach the method of claim 1 , wherein the user identification is an internet Protocol address of a node originating the request.

Levergood teaches at para., [0031] If the initial GET URL contains a SID, the content server determines whether the request is directed to a page within the current domain 106.", para.. [0014] In the preferred embodiment, a valid SID allows the client to access all controlled files within a protection domain without requiring further authorization. A protection domain is defined by the service provider and is a collection of controlled files of common protection within one or more servers., para. [0012], "A valid SID typically comprises a user identifier, an accessible domain, a key identifier, an expiration time such as date, the IP address of the user computer, and an unforgeable digital signature such as a cryptographic hash of all of the other items in the SID encrypted with a secret key. "(wherein the user identification is an internet Protocol address of a node originating the request.)

The SID (a session identification) including these many user data including the IP address of the user computer would be so recognized by persons of ordinary skill, such that it would have been obvious for one in ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to add the teachings of Levergood's "IP address of the user computer" into the Nakano's cookie.

It would have been obvious because the SID allows the user to access specific document with the identification of knowing exactly what it's IP address is as taught by Levergood affording the same concept to be used for the mechanism like Nakano's cookie.

Referring to claim 8,

Keeping in mind the teachings of Nakano, Nakano specifically fails to teach the method of claim 7, wherein the identification is an Internet Protocol address.

Levergood teaches at para., [0031] If the initial GET URL contains a SID, the content server determines whether the request is directed to a page within the current domain 106.", para.. [0014] In the preferred embodiment, a valid SID allows the client to access all controlled files within a protection domain without requiring further authorization. A protection domain is defined by the service provider and is a collection of controlled files of common protection within one or more servers., para. [0012], "A valid SID typically comprises a user identifier, an accessible domain, a key identifier, an expiration time such as date, the IP address of the user computer, and an unforgeable digital signature such as a cryptographic hash of all of the other items in the SID encrypted with a secret key. "(wherein the identification is an Internet Protocol address.)

The SID (a session identification) including these many user data including the IP address of the user computer would be so recognized by persons of ordinary skill, such that it would have been obvious for one in ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to add the teachings of Levergood's "IP address of the user computer" into the Nakano's cookie.

It would have been obvious because the SID allows the user to access specific document with the identification of knowing exactly what it's IP address is as taught by Levergood affording the same concept to be used for the mechanism like Nakano's cookie.

Referring to claim 13,

Keeping in mind the teachings of Nakano, Nakano specifically fails to teach the data processing system of claim 12, wherein the user identification is an Internet Protocol address of a node originating the request.

Levergood teaches at para., [0031] If the initial GET URL contains a SID, the content server determines whether the request is directed to a page within the current domain 106.", para.. [0014] In the preferred embodiment, a valid SID allows the client to access all controlled files within a protection domain without requiring further authorization. A protection domain is defined by the service provider and is a collection of controlled files of common protection within one or more servers., para. [0012], "A valid SID typically comprises a user identifier, an accessible domain, a key identifier, an expiration time such as date, the IP address of the user computer, and an unforgeable digital signature such as a cryptographic hash of all of the other items in the SID encrypted with a secret key. "(wherein the user identification is an internet Protocol address of a node originating the request.)

The SID (a session identification) including these many user data including the IP address of the user computer would be so recognized by persons of ordinary skill, such that it would have been obvious for one in ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add the teachings of Levergood's "IP address of the user computer" into the Nakano's cookie.

It would have been obvious because the SID allows the user to access specific document with the identification of knowing exactly what it's IP address is as taught by Levergood affording the same concept to be used for the mechanism like Nakano's cookie.

Referring to claim 19,

Keeping in mind the teachings of Nakano, Nakano specifically fails to teach the data processing system of claim 18, wherein the identification is an Internet Protocol address.

Levergood teaches at para., [0031] If the initial GET URL contains a SID, the content server determines whether the request is directed to a page within the current domain 106.", para.. [0014] In the preferred embodiment, a valid SID allows the client to access all controlled files within a protection domain without requiring further authorization. A protection domain is defined by the service provider and is a collection of controlled files of common protection within one or more servers., para. [0012], "A valid SID typically comprises a user identifier, an accessible domain, a key identifier, an expiration time such as date, the IP address of the user computer, and an unforgeable

digital signature such as a cryptographic hash of all of the other items in the SID encrypted with a secret key. "(wherein the identification is an Internet Protocol address.)

The SID (a session identification) including these many user data including the IP address of the user computer would be so recognized by persons of ordinary skill, such that it would have been obvious for one in ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add the teachings of Levergood's "IP address of the user computer" into the Nakano's cookie.

It would have been obvious because the SID allows the user to access specific document with the identification of knowing exactly what it's IP address is as taught by Levergood affording the same concept to be used for the mechanism like Nakano's cookie.

Referring to claim 28,

Claim 28 is a claim to computer program products in a computer readable medium that carries out the method steps of claim 8. Therefore claim 28 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 8.

Conclusion

Examiner's note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant in preparing responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part

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of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the Examiner.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ashok B. Patel whose telephone number is (571) 272-3972. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 am-4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan A. Flynn can be reached on (571) 272-1915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Abp

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